

Message Text

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17

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

SAJ-01 SAM-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 BIB-01 ACDA-10

EB-07 SCCT-01 EA-10 DLOS-05 /108 W

----- 102670

O R 200950Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 324

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION USBERLIN UNN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS MOSCOW 6899

VIENNA PLEASE PASS SECRETARY'S PARTY AND AMBASSADOR STOESSEL

GENEVA FOR USDEL CSCE

USIA FOR IBS, IEE, IPS, IOP/M

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY MAY 20

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1. VIENNA MEETING. THE CENTRAL PRESS REPORTS PROMINENTLY

GROMYKO AND KISSINGER ARRIVAL IN VIENNA. PRAVDA AND IZVESTIYA HAVE GROMYKO SAYING IN ARRIVAL STATEMENT THAT THE SOVIET DELEGATION IS READY TO CONDUCT THE EXCHANGE OF OPINIONS IN A CONSTRUCTIVE MANNER AND THAT IT "HOPES FOR A SIMILAR APPROACH" BY THE U.S. PRAVDA REPORTS THAT YESTERDAY'S DISCUSSIONS COVERED A SERIES OF QUESTIONS OF MUTUAL INTEREST, INCLUDING CSCE.

2. U.S.-SOVIET BILATERAL. THE CENTRAL PRESS REPORTS POSITIVELY THE ARRIVAL IN MOSCOW OF THE U.S. STATE GOVERNORS DELEGATION AND THEIR RECEPTION BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE RSFSR COUNCIL OF MINISTERS. NEGATIVE COVERAGE ON THE U.S. IS SOMEWHAT HEAVIER THAN USUAL. COVERAGE IN IZVESTIYA AND PRAVDA INCLUDES (OUT OF A TOTAL OF SEVEN PICTURES/CARTOONS ON ALL SUBJECTS IN THE TWO PAPERS) PICTURE OF THAIS DEMONSTRATING AT U.S. EMBASSY IN BANGKOK (IZVESTIYA); U.S. AGRICULTURAL WORKERS DEMONSTRATING IN NEW YORK (PRAVDA); AND AN ANTI-GEORGE MEANY CARTOON (PRAVDA). PRAVDA REPORTS PROMINENTLY IN ARTICLE "CONNIVING WITH THE RACISTS," THAT BYRON DE LA BECKWITH HAS GOTTEN OFF FROM CHARGE OF CARRYING CONCEALED WEAPONS WITH VERY LIGHT SENTENCE IN NEW ORLEANS COURT CASE. WITH A PERUVIAN ECONOMIC DELEGATION IN MOSCOW, PERU'S NATIONALIZATION OF THE GULF OIL COMPANY GETS PROMINENT TREATMENT.

3. MIDDLE EAST. IN A SPARSE DAY FOR ME COVERAGE, PRAVDA HAS A SHORT NEW YORK-DATELINED TASS REPORT CHARGING THAT ISRAEL IS "FORCING PLANS" TO INCORPORATE ARAB TERRITORIES. TASS SAYS RABIN HAS STATED ISRAEL WILL BUILD A SETTLEMENT AT THE SOUTHERN END OF SINAI BY 1977. ALSO IN PRAVDA TASS REPORTS FROM BEIRUT THAT A MEETING OF AFRO-ASIAN SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES FROM TWELVE ARAB COUNTRIES ISSUED A DECLARATION TAKING NOTE OF THE NEED TO CALL THE GENEVA CONFERENCE WITH PLO PARTICIPATION. ACCORDING TO TASS, THE MEETING ALSO ENDORSED STRONG SOVIET-ARAB TIES AND THE STRUGGLES OF THE PALESTINIANS AND DHOFAR REBELS. IZVESTIYA GIVES PROMINENT COVERAGE TO PRESIDENT PODGORNY'S PRESENTATION TO FUAD NASSER, FIRST SECRETARY OF THE JORDANIAN COMMUNIST PARTY, OF AN ORDER OF FRIENDSHIP OF PEOPLES MEDAL. RED STAR CARRIES BRIEF TASS ANNOUNCEMENT THAT ARAB LEAGUE CHIEFS OF STAFF BEGAN TWO-DAY TALKS IN CAIRO MAY 19.

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4. CSCE. IZVESTIYA FOREIGN AFFAIRS EDITOR (GRIGORYANTS) WRITES IN THAT PAPER MAY 19 THAT ALL NECESSARY CONDITIONS ARE NOW AT HAND FOR COMPLETION OF THIRD STAGE OF CSCE AT HIGHEST LEVEL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. TONE OF ARTICLE IS SOMEWHAT PETULANT, WITH REPEATED ATTACKS ON "CERTAIN PERSONS" WHO WANT TO DELAY HOLDING OF HELSINKI WRAP-UP. ON PEACEFUL CHANGE, IZVESTIYA SAYS THAT FORMULA AGREED ON DOES NOT WEAKEN PRINCIPLE OF INVIOABILITY OF FRONTIERS. ON CBM'S, IT SAYS

THAT WEST IS REALIZING UNACCEPTABILITY OF ITS POSITION ON
PRIOR NOTIFICATION AND THAT SOVIET UNION HAS SUGGESTED ALTERNATIVE
WHICH OPENS WAY TO ACCEPTABLE AGREEMENT.

5. MAYAGUEZ INCIDENT. MOSCOW HAS STILL REFRAINED FROM
ISSUING A PUBLIC STATEMENT OR COMMENTARY ON THE MAYAGUEZ
INCIDENT, BUT HAS IMPLICITLY ENDORSED THE CAMBODIAN VERSION
OF THE EVENTS, INCLUDING THE CHARGE THAT THE SHIP WAS ENGAGED
IN INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES. AN IZVESTIYA SUMMARY REPLAYS
CAMBODIAN, SOUTH VIETNAMESE AND THAI CONDEMNATION OF THE
U.S. ACTION. PRAVDA AND RED STAR REPORT CONTINUING
DEMONSTRATIONS IN THAILAND, INCLUDING THE OPPOSITION CALL FOR
A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY TO CONSIDER THAI-
U.S. RELATIONS. PRAVDA CARRIES A CPUSA STATEMENT CONDEMNING THE
U.S. MILITARY OPERATION. SOVIET MEDIA HAVE NOT SO FAR CARRIED
THE STRONG CONDEMNATION ISSUED BY THE SOVIET-LINE WORLD
FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS FROM PRAGUE, REPORTED IN TASS ENGLISH.

6. CHINA. PRAVDA COMMENTATOR YURI ZHUKOV TARGETS PEKING'S
EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN TIES WITH WESTERN EUROPE AS ANOTHER
ASPECT OF ITS ANTI-SOVIET POLICY. ZHUKOV CITES PEKING'S
ESTABLISHMENT OF FORMAL LINKS WITH THE EEC AND TENG HSIAO-
PING'S COMMENTS IN PARIS TO SUPPORT THE CHARGE OF PRC COOPERATION
WITH THE WORST REACTIONARY CIRCLES IN WESTERN EUROPE (SEPTEL).
PRAVDA AND RED STAR CONTINUE TO REPORT JAPANESE REACTION
AGAINST THE RESULTS OF THE JSP VISIT TO PEKING, ESPECIALLY
THE "HEGEMONY" LANGUAGE OF THE COMMUNIQUE.

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